

Application No. 10/628,749
Amendment dated April 5, 2006
After Final Office Action of February 3, 2006

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Canceled):

Claim 2 (Canceled): ~~The image transfer apparatus of claim 20 wherein said transfer engine includes an electrostatic transfer system.~~

Claim 3 (Canceled): ~~The image transfer apparatus of claim 20 wherein said transfer engine includes an ink ejection system.~~

Claim 4 (Canceled): ~~The image transfer apparatus of claim 20 wherein said transfer engine includes a thermal transfer system.~~

Claim 5 (Canceled):

Claim 6 (Canceled): ~~The image transfer apparatus of claim 20 wherein said cartridge adapts a plurality of pads having differing cross sectional areas to said transfer registration system.~~

Claim 7 (Canceled):

Claim 8 (Canceled):

Claim 9 (Canceled):

Claim 10 (Canceled):

Claim 11 (Canceled): ~~The image transfer apparatus of claim 20 wherein said image transfer engine includes a replaceable cartridge containing a transfer medium for said transfer engine.~~

Claim 12 (Canceled): ~~The image transfer apparatus of claim 11 wherein said transfer engine includes an aperture for controllably ejecting ink and said cartridge contains said ink.~~

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Claim 13 (Canceled):

Claim 14 (Currently amended): An image transfer apparatus, comprising:
a housing;
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a
transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer
position; and
a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine,
for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably
secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system
locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, and
wherein said transfer registration system cooperates with a media
stripper for removing said located one transfer medium from said pad,
said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of
said image to said one medium of said transfer media~~The image~~
~~transfer apparatus of claim 24~~ wherein said transfer registration
system ejects said removed transfer medium from said housing.

Claim 15 (Canceled): ~~The image transfer apparatus of claim 20 wherein said~~
~~transfer engine is a printer.~~

Claim 16 (Previously presented): A transferring method, the method
comprising:
positioning a pad at a transfer position of a transfer engine using a
pad-storing cartridge repeatably removable from a housing containing
said transfer engine, said pad including a plurality of transfer media
releasably secured to one another; and
transferring an image to one of said transfer media positioned at said
transfer position; and
removing said one of said transfer media using a media stripper

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proximate to a print registration system including said pad-storing cartridge, said media stripper mounted within said housing.

Claim 17 (Original): The transferring method of claim 16 wherein said one of said transfer media is releasably secured to said pad when said image is transferred.

Claim 18 (Original): The transferring method of claim 16 wherein said one of said transfer media is detached from said pad when said image is transferred.

Claim 19 (Canceled): ~~An image transfer apparatus, comprising:
means for positioning a pad at a transfer position of a transfer engine;
said pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another wherein said positioning means includes means for adapting to varying peripheral pad dimensions, said adapting means repeatably removable from a housing containing said transfer engine;
and
means, coupled to said positioning means, for transferring an image to one of said transfer media positioned at said transfer position; and
means for removing said one of said transfer media using a media stripper proximate to a print registration system including said pad-storing cartridge, said media stripper mounted within said housing.~~

Claim 20 (Canceled): ~~An image transfer apparatus, comprising:
a housing;
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer position; and
a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine, for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably~~

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~~secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, and wherein said transfer medium registration system includes a cartridge for storing said pad and wherein said transfer medium registration system cooperates with a media stripper for removing said one of said transfer media, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said one medium of said transfer media.~~

Claim 21 (Canceled): An image transfer apparatus, comprising:

~~a housing;
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer position; and
a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine, for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, and wherein said transfer registration system cooperates with a media stripper for removing said located one transfer medium from said pad, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said one medium of said transfer media.~~

Claim 22 (Previously presented): A transferring method, the method comprising:

positioning a pad at a transfer position of a transfer engine, said pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another; and
transferring an image to one of said transfer media positioned at said transfer position, wherein said one of said transfer media is detached

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from said pad when said image is transferred using a media stripper proximate to a print registration system, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said one of said transfer media.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): A transferring method, the method comprising:

- (a) positioning a pad at a transfer position of a transfer engine, said pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another;
- (b) transferring an image to one of said transfer media positioned at said transfer position; and
- (c) removing said located one transfer medium from said pad using a media stripper proximate to a print registration system, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said one of said transfer media.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The transferring method of claim 23 wherein said removing step (c) is performed after said transferring step (b).

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The transferring method of claim 23 wherein said removing step (c) is performed prior to said transferring step (b).

Claim 26 (Canceled): ~~An image transfer apparatus, comprising:~~

- ~~a housing;~~
- ~~a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer position; and~~
- ~~a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine,~~

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~~for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, wherein said transfer medium registration system includes a cartridge, repeatably removable from said housing, for storing said pad during operation and wherein said transfer medium registration system includes a media stripper for removing said one of said transfer media, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said one of said transfer media.~~

Claim 27 (Canceled): ~~An image transfer apparatus, comprising:~~

~~a housing;~~
~~a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer position; and~~
~~a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine, for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, and wherein said transfer medium registration system and said transfer engine are integrated with an imaging system and wherein said transfer medium registration system cooperates with a media stripper for removing said one of said transfer media, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said one of said transfer media.~~

Claim 28 (Canceled): ~~The image transfer apparatus of claim 27 wherein said imaging system is an image capture system.~~

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~~Claim 29 (Canceled): The image transfer apparatus of claim 27 wherein said imaging system is an image storing system.~~

~~Claim 30 (Canceled): The image transfer apparatus of claim 27 wherein said imaging system is an image transmission system.~~

~~Claim 31 (Canceled): The image transfer apparatus of claim 27 wherein said imaging system is logically integrated with said transfer medium registration system and said transfer engine.~~

~~Claim 32 (Canceled): An image transfer apparatus, comprising:
a housing;
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer position; and
a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine, for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, and wherein said transfer engine includes a stenciling system and wherein said transfer medium registration system cooperates with a media stripper for removing said one of said transfer media, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said one of said transfer media.~~

~~Claim 33 (Canceled): An image transfer apparatus, comprising:
a housing;
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer position; and
a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine,~~

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~~for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, and wherein said transfer engine includes a stamping system and wherein said transfer medium registration system cooperates with a media stripper for removing said one of said transfer media, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said one of said transfer media.~~

Claim 34 (Canceled): An image transfer apparatus, comprising:

~~a housing;
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer position; and
a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine, for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, and wherein said transfer engine is replaceable upon exhaustion of a consumable used during image transfer and wherein said transfer medium registration system includes a media stripper for removing said one of said transfer media, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said one of said transfer media.~~

Claim 35 (Canceled): An image transfer apparatus, comprising:

~~a housing;
one or more image access ports
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer~~

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position; and
~~a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine,
for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably
secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system
locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, and
wherein said image transferred by said transfer engine was
communicated to said transfer engine using said one or more access
ports and wherein said transfer medium registration system includes a
media stripper for removing said one of said transfer media, said
media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said
image to said one of said transfer media.~~

Claim 36 (Canceled): An image transfer apparatus, comprising:

~~a housing;
a display;
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a
transfer medium when said transfer medium is located at a transfer
position; and
a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine,
for positioning a pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably
secured to one another, wherein said transfer registration system
locates one of said transfer media at said transfer position, and
wherein said display provides feedback of a status of said transfer of
said image and wherein said transfer medium registration system
includes a media stripper for removing said one of said transfer media,
said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of
said image to said one of said transfer media.~~

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Claim 37 (Canceled): ~~The image transfer apparatus of claim 36 wherein said status is selected from a set of status modes including a ready to begin mode, a transfer ongoing mode, and a transfer complete mode.~~

Claim 38 (Previously presented): An image transfer system, comprising:
a pad including a plurality of uniformly-sized stacked transfer medium elements releasably secured to each other;
a housing;
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a particular one transfer medium element of said pad when said particular one transfer medium element is located at a transfer position; and
a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine, for positioning said pad, wherein said transfer registration system locates said particular one transfer medium element at said transfer position, and wherein said transfer medium registration system includes a cartridge for storing said pad during operation and wherein said transfer medium registration system cooperates with a media stripper for removing said one of said transfer media, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said particular one transfer medium element.

Claim 39 (Previously presented): The system of claim 38 wherein said cartridge is adaptable for differing dimensioned pads.

Claim 40 (Previously presented): The system of claim 38 wherein said particular one transfer medium element is a top-most transfer medium of said pad.

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Claim 41 (Previously presented): The system of claim 38 wherein said particular one transfer medium element is a bottom-most transfer medium of said pad.

Claim 42 (Previously presented): An image transfer system, comprising:
a pad including a plurality of uniformly-sized stacked transfer medium elements releasably secured to each other;
a housing;
a transfer engine, within said housing, for transferring an image to a particular one transfer medium element of said pad when said particular one transfer medium element is located at a transfer position; and
a transfer medium registration system, coupled to said transfer engine, for positioning said pad, wherein said transfer registration system locates said particular one transfer medium element at said transfer position, and wherein said transfer registration system includes a media stripper for removing said particular one transfer medium element from said pad, said media stripper disposed within said housing during a transfer of said image to said particular one transfer medium element.

Claim 43 (Previously presented): The system of claim 42 wherein said media stripper removes said particular one transfer medium element prior to image transfer.

Claim 44 (Previously presented): The system of claim 42 wherein said media stripper removes said particular one transfer medium element after image transfer.

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Claim 45 (Previously presented): The system of claim 43 wherein said particular one transfer medium element is a top-most transfer medium of said pad.

Claim 46 (Previously presented): The system of claim 43 wherein said particular one transfer medium element is a bottom-most transfer medium of said pad.

Claim 47 (Previously presented): The system of claim 44 wherein said particular one transfer medium element is a top-most transfer medium of said pad.

Claim 48 (Previously presented): The system of claim 44 wherein said particular one transfer medium element is a bottom-most transfer medium of said pad.

Claim 49 (Canceled): ~~An image transfer apparatus, comprising:
means for positioning a pad at a transfer position of a transfer engine;
said pad including a plurality of transfer media releasably secured to one another wherein said positioning means locates a particular one transfer medium at said transfer position and includes means, disposed within a housing containing said transfer engine, for removing said particular one transfer medium from said pad; and
means, coupled to said positioning means, for transferring an image to said particular one transfer medium positioned at said transfer position.~~